

15th MEU Standing ROE





On Iraqi TV today, Information Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf said that U.S.-led forces were not within 100 miles of Baghdad as the Pentagon claimed. A U.S. Marine responded by saying, "Can you hear me now?"

What are ROE?

- Rules governing the conduct of military operations.
 - Engagement criteria
 - Targeting priorities
 - Special Instructions
 - Force continuum

CJCS Standing ROE

- You may engage forces declared hostile
- You may take all necessary and appropriate measures to defend your unit and other U.S. forces against Hostile acts or Hostile intent

15 MEU Standing ROE

- SELF DEFENSE – I will take **all Necessary and Appropriate** measures to defend myself, my unit, and other U.S. forces against a **Hostile Act or Hostile Intent.**

SROE - cont.

- **Necessary and Appropriate:**
 - The force necessary to stop the hostile act or intent.
 - Proportional to the threat.
 - Try to control the situation without use of force.
 - Give warning if time permits.

SROE - cont.

- **Hostile Act / Hostile Intent:**

- Attack or use of force – or threat of force, directed either against my unit or other U.S. forces, or to impede my mission or that of U.S. forces.

SROE

- **Pursuit:**

- Chase and attack enemy as long as they continue to pose a threat.
- Do not pursue into another country.



SROE

- **Minimize Collateral Damage:**
 - Avoid injuries to civilians and damage to civilian property consistent with mission accomplishment and force protection.

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SROE examples: Hostile Force

- You see a member of a force declared hostile. His back is to you, and he is peeing against a tree. His weapon is against another tree 20 feet away.
- Can you engage?

SROE examples

- Yes – you can engage all forces declared hostile
 - Unless they have somehow become non-combatants (surrendered, or wounded, etc.)
- Mission, situation or ROE may suggest you try capturing him, but nothing illegal with shooting him.

SROE examples: Hostile Act

- You are driving in an open HUMVEE through a crowd of townsfolk. Suddenly a young boy runs up and grabs your sunglasses and starts running away.
- Can you shoot him?

SROE examples

- No!
- Cannot use deadly force to defend property except for property designated mission critical, national security, or dangerous weapons.
- If theft was of a case of grenades, then probably o.k. to use deadly force

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SROE Examples: Proportionality

- While running a convoy to relieve Marines pinned down in a fire fight, a civilian woman lays on the ground in front of your convoy. How do you respond?

SROE - Proportionality

- This is a hostile act, and you can respond with proportional force. Deadly force is not authorized.
- First, direct her to get out of the way.
- If she refuses, flex cuff her, and physically remove her.

SROE - Proportionality

- What if she pulls out a pistol when you approach her and waves it around without pointing it directly at anyone?

SROE - Proportionality

- Still not authorized to use deadly force.
- Firmly demand that she put down the pistol.
- If she points the pistol at anyone, you can engage.

SROE - Proportionality

- As you stop the vehicles to avoid hitting her, you start to take fire from adjacent buildings. It seems that she has set you up for an ambush.

SROE - Proportionality

- When you are threatened with deadly force, you are authorized to respond with deadly force.
- Appropriate response depends on the tactical situation.
- Drive through or engage. Her proximity to the ambush justifies considering her an enemy combatant.

I WAS WEAK AND RUN-DOWN

I had circles under my eyes. My
tail drooped. I had a foul case
of Appeasement

... THEN
I LEARNED ABOUT

“GUTS”

that amazing remedy
For all Mankind's Woes

NOW

I AM TAKING IT DAILY
and today

I FEEL STRONG
ENOUGH TO

PUNCH MISTER HITLER RIGHT IN THE SNOOT!



BEFORE



AFTER

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Questions?